REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By the foregoing amendment, claim 1 has been amended and claims 2-7, 12-14 and 16-17 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added. Support for the amended language of claim 1 is found throughout the specification, including pages 23 and 31-35. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim Objection

In the Office Action, claim 1 was objected to on grounds of a typographical error. By the foregoing amendment, this objection has been rendered moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

In the Office Action, all claims were rejected under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112 on grounds that the written description was inadequate to support the claims. By the foregoing amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to specifically recite a method for treating an autoimmune disorder in a human or veterinary patient by administering from 0.5 to 1.5 mg of at least one glycopeptide selected from GMDP and GMDP-A, by a route of administration whereby it crosses the nasal, sublingual or buccal mucosa every 36 to 96 hours. Applicant respectfully submits that, in view of this amendment to independent claim 1, the stated rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 has been overcome. The specification contains specific disclosure as to the benefits of nasal, sublingual and buccal administration as well as specific examples describing such administration of GMDP and GMDP-A to treat autoimmune disorders. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the stated rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Also in the Office Action, all claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over PCT International Patent Application Publication WO 96/01645 (Ledger) in view of United States Patent No. 5,952,373 (Lazendorfer et al.). However, neither Ledger nor Lazendorfer et al. is seen to describe or suggest the administration of GMDP and GMDP-A by nasal, sublingual or buccal route. Nor does Ledger nor Lazendorfer et al. describe or indicate any

recognition that administration of GMDP and GMDP-A by the nasal, sublingual or buccal routes of administration would result in substantially higher blood levels of these compounds than could be achieved by oral dosing. Thus, the amended claims are believed to be patentably distinguishable over Ledger and Lazendorfer et al.

Conclusion

Applicant believes all the pending claims to be in condition for allowance. Issuance of a notice of allowance is earnestly solicited. A three month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct the small entity fee for such extension as well as any other fee properly deemed to be due in connection with the filing of this paper from Deposit Account No. 50-0878. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would in any way expedite the prosecution of the application, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone Applicant's counsel at the number provided below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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